

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Well, here we are again with another very late issue of Biophilately, for which I apologise. In fact, it is almost time to start putting the second issue together. Some explanation of this situation is obviously warranted, so here goes. First, we had some health problems in the family, with my Daughter, who has Lupus and Diabetes getting another attack and ending up in hospital, after which she had to come and spend a month with us, which disrupted normal operation of the establishment!

Then, as I mentioned in my last editorial, AmeriStamp Expo was being held here in Toronto, owing to the fact of Washington 2006 really making it impossible to hold the show as usual in the U.S. Since I was acting as the exhibits chairman and also taking care of the judges, it involved a very large amount of work on my part. It was worthwhile however, as the show was very successful.

Following this, Barbara had to have some surgical procedures carried out so we were back and forth to hospital on that account. Fortunately I can report that all seems in order once again except for some protracted treatments necessitating travel a couple of times a week down to Toronto.

Now, how about something regarding Biophilately and the Unit. I have just sent off the sixteen pages of material for our promotional frame at Washington and I have to give a vote of thanks to Michael Prince, Chris Dahle, Paul Mistretta, Kris Lindstrom, Chuck Braun, Don Wright and Wallace Ashby for sending material to construct the exhibit. You can see the first eight pages on pages 20 and 46 of this issue. I am hopeful that we shall get some more members through this effort and I shall look forward to seeing all these frames from various clubs and units when I get to Washington, where the ATA is having the annual meeting and there will be a Biology Unit meeting on Friday, June 2 at 1:00 p.m.

We still have no editor for bird new issues, although Chuck Braun sent a very long listing of New Birds. I have only included about one-third of this list, but intend to bring out the second Biophilately in late June to get back on track for the normal four issues a year. The rest of New Birds will be in that. Botany has a long list in this issue, as Chris had sent me two submissions from the Scott Stamp Monthly listings. At least our members are getting up-to-date information on new issues. What I would like to see more of in our journal is short (2 to 3 pages) articles on various aspects of the subjects we collect. There have been articles from time to time, but one time when we sent the journal in to a literature competition, the criticism was that the journal is just a listing of new issues. A little food for thought! I do hope those of you that attend Washington 2006 have a great time and find lots of nice items for your collection.

Until next time - *Alan J. Hanks*

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